

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2005/000536

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61M1/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61M

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | EP 1 374 929 A (JOSTRA AG) 2 January 2004 (2004-01-02) paragraph '0015! - paragraph '0017!; figure | 7,11 |
| Y | US 6 337 049 B1 (TAMARI YEHUDA) 8 January 2002 (2002-01-08) paragraph '0062!; figure 1 | 8-10 |
| Y | US 6 632 189 B1 (MARTINET ALPHONSE ET AL) 14 October 2003 (2003-10-14) paragraph '0050! - paragraph '0051!; figure 6 | 9 |
| A | US 6 524 267 B1 (ELGAS ROGER J ET AL) 25 February 2003 (2003-02-25) cited in the application paragraph '0016!; figure 1 | 10 |
| Y | | |
| | | -/- |

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 May 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/05/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl.
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Villeneuve, J-M

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2005/000536**C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

| Category | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|----------|--|-----------------------|
| A | EP 1 203 592 A (CONVERGENZA AG) 8 May 2002 (2002-05-08) paragraph '0017! ----- US 4 643 713 A (VIITALA DANIEL W) 17 February 1987 (1987-02-17) ----- | |
| | | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/000536

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 1-6 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT – Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT – Method for treatment of the human or animal body by therapy
2. Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2005/000536

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | | Patent family member(s) | | Publication date |
|--|----|------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| EP 1374929 | A | 02-01-2004 | EP | 1374929 A1 | | 02-01-2004 |
| US 6337049 | B1 | 08-01-2002 | WO US | 0012155 A1 2001010802 A1 | | 09-03-2000 02-08-2001 |
| US 6632189 | B1 | 14-10-2003 | AU JP WO US | 6498699 A 2002526208 T 0016825 A2 2003163078 A1 | | 10-04-2000 20-08-2002 30-03-2000 28-08-2003 |
| US 6524267 | B1 | 25-02-2003 | US EP | 6302860 B1 1036567 A2 | | 16-10-2001 20-09-2000 |
| EP 1203592 | A | 08-05-2002 | AT DE EP JP | 276780 T 60105738 D1 1203592 A1 2002177384 A | | 15-10-2004 28-10-2004 08-05-2002 25-06-2002 |
| US 4643713 | A | 17-02-1987 | CA DE EP WO | 1270412 A1 3582925 D1 0201528 A1 8602825 A1 | | 19-06-1990 27-06-1991 20-11-1986 22-05-1986 |